

WHY KEANE HIT CLARKE

Dyspeptic Comedian Swore at
Helen McGregor and Was
Thrashed for Offense.

STORY OF AN UNHAPPY SHOW

Milk and Honey Comedian Did
Not Agree With Reynolds'
Help and Couldn't Hide
His Anger.

Frank Keane, whose company closes its engagement at Fishers' tonight in "The Vendetta," is the young man who thrashed Harry Corson Clarke for swearing at Helen McGregor, the well-known actress. The affair was pulled off at San Francisco, and at the time attracted widespread attention. When Mr. Keane kicked Mr. Clark out of the Republic theater he said, as a sort of parting shot, that he would pull his nose whenever he again met the comedian, and the chances are he will make good his threat.

The story of the affair is interesting. An Englishman named Harrington Reynolds determined to organize a company in New York to take in the coast. Clarke had been engaged for the trip before Keane was consulted by Reynolds. Edmund Breese, another prominent thespian, was in the metropolis when Reynolds came along. Miss McGregor was leading lady with E. H. Sothorn, and when Sothorn decided upon a European trip she left the company. So Reynolds engaged Keane, Breese and Miss McGregor, and the company started west.

Clarke was unknown to the eastern contingent. He had a reputation here on the coast, but in the east, after Reynolds had engaged him, he was known as the "coast defender." Clarke was then in the west. The Republic was located on Fifth street, just off Market, and was recently destroyed by fire.

Right at the start things didn't go well. Clarke was offended because the easterners had never heard of him. He seemed to be suffering greatly from nervous dyspepsia, and was terribly indignant when the other members of the combination asked him questions about himself. Keane, Breese and Miss McGregor all had iron-clad contracts with Edward Ackerman, manager of the Republic, and, as the combination was a strong one, the show should have made some money. Clarke didn't rank as well, and when he was cast in a small part in "The Sporting Duchess," the opening bill, his indignation grew.

Reynolds started with considerable money, but in three weeks he was all in. Ackerman had his contracts to make good, however, and he went ahead with the engagement. He couldn't handle the company himself, so he offered the management to Keane, who declined it. Then he made the offer to Breese, but Breese was satisfied to get good money in the east. Miss McGregor had once owned a show of her own, and she, too, was offered the management. When she declined, it was up to Ackerman to let Clarke manage matters, and he became the head of the combination—a circumstance that seemed to very greatly impress him.

The first open rupture occurred when Clarke snapped his fingers at Keane during rehearsal. Clarke had been casting all three of the leading members in small parts, and, while the eastern trio expected to cut out after the eight weeks for which they had been engaged, they did not take kindly to Clarke's management. When Clarke snapped his fingers at Keane, the latter rebelled, and plainly told the comedian that the finger-snapping stunt must cease. To emphasize the statement he twisted Clarke's nose. With this Clarke and the others quit speak-

ing. Clarke was the directing head of things, and when one of the three members wished to communicate with the manager he would employ the stage manager as interlocutor. It was not an uncommon thing for one of the three to say to the stage manager: "Mr. Jones, will you be good enough to inform Mr. Clarke that such and such is the case?"

Of course, this state of affairs could not long continue, and Ackerman knew it. So he went to Keane and exacted from him a solemn promise that he would not assault Clarke until after the eight weeks were up. Keane promised because he did not want to injure Ackerman, who wasn't making a barrel of money.

One morning at rehearsal, Keane being absent, Clarke insulted Miss McGregor. The story goes that Clarke was very much in love with McGregor for a time, but she did not entertain for him the same deep feeling of sentiment, and he was nettled. He complained of her work on the morning in question, and used some adjectives that would sound rather vulgar even among men. McGregor was very indignant. When the story reached Keane his ire was aroused, but he was held down by his promise to Ackerman and couldn't thrash Clarke. So he patiently awaited the end of the engagement.

When the curtain went down at the end of the eight weeks upon a stageful of actors, Keane's promise expired. He immediately seized Clarke, placed him across his knee and spanked him until he was tired. Then, when Clarke displayed a gun, Keane went after him rough-shod, and literally kicked him out of the building. The comedian was pretty badly used up, and insult was added to his physical injuries when the papers came out, the next morning with long accounts of the happening. The climax to the engagement forms part of the history of Pacific coast barnstorming.

Keane admits that Clarke is an excellent comedian when he is permitted to use a lot of impromptu stuff in his lines, but says he is not a pleasant fellow to work with.

WANTS HER SON'S BODY.

Queen of Serbia Would Reinter Corpses
of Murdered Boy.

Queen Natalie of Serbia has invoked the intervention of Emperor Francis Joseph with the Serbian government, with the object of securing permission for the transfer of the body of her murdered son from its temporary tomb at Belgrade, to the monastery of Krussedel, on Hungarian soil, where Milan already reposes under a magnificent monument erected by the Austrian emperor at his own expense when the exiled king died at Vienna, almost destitute and abandoned by his only son. Queen Natalie proposes to raise a monument to her son similar to that of Milan in the event of being able to obtain the transfer of Alexander's remains. But, of course, she will not hear of Queen Draga having any share in these post mortem honors or being moved to the monastery.

It is probable that King Peter and his government will comply with Emperor Francis Joseph's suggestions and grant the necessary authorization to Queen Natalie, since the presence of the remains of the murdered King of Belgrade is neither agreeable to his successor nor altogether politic, as there is always the danger of his grave there becoming the object of a popular demonstration. Moreover, the separation of the murdered King and Queen and death by Alexander's mother, acting in conjunction with the Austrian government, will serve in a measure to confirm the contention of the regicides that Draga was quite as disreputable as they alleged, and that they were therefore justified in removing her from the throne, where her presence constituted a national disgrace.

THIS PAPER is kept on file at E.C. DAKES Advertising Agency, 124 Sansome Street, San Francisco, California, where contracts for advertising can be made for it.

GOOD ROADS ARE NEEDED

Nehalem Valley People Unable to
Get Their Products to Astoria
at Present Time.

VISIT OF COUNTY OFFICERS

Make Trip Almost to County Line
and Are Surprised at the
Appearance of the
County.

County Commissioners Clark and Larson, County Clerk Clinton and Roadmaster Frye returned yesterday from a trip of inspection to the Nehalem valley. Messrs. Clinton and Clark had never before visited the southern part of the county, and what they saw while away was a revelation to them. The party went about 10 miles beyond Jewell, the proposed terminus of the Nehalem road.

Mr. Clinton was enthusiastic yesterday over the agricultural part of the county. He had always entertained an idea that the Nehalem river flowed through wooded land, with an occasional farm of bottom land here and there, but he learned that his idea of the Nehalem country was very much in error.

"The country in the southern part of the county is certainly of surprising value as agricultural land," said Mr. Clinton yesterday. "I had no idea of the extent of the really fine land in that part of the county. There are hundreds of acres of excellent land in the Nehalem valley, and, when the people there are enabled to bring their produce to the city, the valley will add its full quota to the wealth of the county."

"At R. M. Wooden's place there are 15 tons of chittam bark ready to be shipped out. Because of the scarcity of labor in the valley, the output of bark has been much less than it otherwise would have been. Mr. Wooden told me he could have marketed 30 tons with enough labor. The present price of the bark is 5 cents a pound, and last year it went up as high as 18 cents."

"The lack of roads works a great hardship on the farmers. Mrs. J. C. Referson states that, when potatoes were very high in town last year, she threw away about 60 bushels that she could not use at home. She says she must have thrown away as many as 500 cabbages. These incidents point out the need for more and better roads, and all of us agreed that the county will materially advance whenever the Nehalem highway is extended."

"The hay crop, settlers say, will be somewhat short of that of last year. The shortage will not be material, however."

The matter of the extension of the Nehalem road will shortly be brought to the attention of the county court. The road now runs to a point near Olney. The fund provided for this highway is not great enough to build the road to Jewell, and it will be up to the court to decide upon a plan to secure the necessary funds. The road to date has cost about \$30,000.

CZAR HOPES FOR SON.

Birth of Boy Would Settle Serious
Question Affecting Throne.

St. Petersburg.—All Russia is anxiously awaiting news from the Peterhof, where the stork is expected to alight within the next few days. People outside of this country cannot comprehend the eagerness of the Russians for an heir to the throne. The birth of another child to the czar and czarina will have a deep political significance that cannot fail to have a direct bearing upon Russia's future policy. If a son is born, he will in course of time become emperor of Russia, and will be reared under the political influence of the present czar, thus practically insuring a continuation of the policy of Nicholas II.

If the expected heir proves to be a daughter the position of Nicholas II, which is already weakened by the course of events in Manchuria, will be rendered precarious. While the government of Russia is an absolute hereditary monarchy, and while the will of the czar is law, yet he cannot transfer his throne to his daughter. There are certain rules of government which the sovereigns of the present reigning house have acknowledged to be binding. One of these is the law of succession to the throne, which, according to a decree of the Emperor Paul, of the year 1797, is that of regular descent, by right of primogeniture, with preference of male heirs. Under this inexorable rule none of the czar's four children will ever occupy his throne, for

they are all daughters. The eldest daughter of the czar is Olga, born November 15, 1895. His second child was Tatiana, born June 11, 1897; his third was Marie, born June 26, 1899, and the fourth was Anastasia, born June 18, 1901.

One powerful reason for wishing a son born to the czar is to have a peaceful succession. If Nicholas II should die before a son is born to him, his successor would be his brother, the Grand Duke Michael, born in 1878. But Michael is regarded as an invalid, and it is feared that if Nicholas passes away without an heir the empire may be rent by strife between his four uncles for the throne.

Since the outbreak of hostilities with Japan the rivalries of the reactionary element and its opponents have kept things in a constant turmoil. This situation, almost intolerable as it is to the czar, exists only because he has no male heir. The reactionary party in his cabinet are able to flaunt his misfortune in his face, because it is well known that in the event of his death the crown will pass to his brother Michael, who is directly under the influence of the dowager empress. She is a woman in the prime of life, born to command, and one of the most bitter opponents of the liberal ideas of her son, the present czar.

Consequently all the hopes of Nicholas center in the event about to take place at the Peterhof, which he prays fervently will add a son to his household and give to Russia a direct heir to the throne. Should a son be born the dowager empress' power would be reduced to nothing in a moment. The czar will then be a czar in fact as in name, and the ministers who now openly defy him, oppose his will, and refuse to execute his policy, will be brought to his feet. The birth of another daughter, however, will bring him only the keenest disappointment and make his situation so unbearable that his abdication of the throne would be no surprise.

WHAT THE LEAGUE SHOULD BE.

President Welch of Chamber of Commerce Anxious for Good Start.

President Welch of the Chamber of Commerce stated yesterday that he would probably appoint delegates to the Oregon Development League on Monday night, at the regular meeting of the chamber. Mr. Welch was a member of the Columbia River Basin Board of Trade, which made such an elegant start and so poor a finish. He feels that he wasted considerable energy as one of the directing spirits of that board, which went out of business soon after the election of Ellis G. Hughes to the presidency, and at a time, too, when the board was about in position to accomplish much for Astoria. Mr. Welch is heartily in favor of a state organization, but he wants to be assured that it will not peter out and die at a critical time. In view of the fact that Tom Richardson is at the head of the present movement, there is no possibility of a fluke, and the local delegation will go to Portland prepared to participate in the formation of a league that will do much for Oregon.

Lost Coins in Mail Bags.

The lot of a railway postal clerk is not an altogether happy one. Ordinarily no man is rich enough to escape that certain sense of elation which comes from picking up a nickel on a sidewalk; but when a railway postal clerk finds such a coin in a mail pouch where it has worked out from insufficient wrappings, not only does he miss this elation, but it may provoke profanity.

For a nickel lost in a pouch of mail in transit become a matter for national concern. It comes to view, perhaps, just as a pouch of mail is emptied upon a sorting table; and when it has broken away from the bunch of letters and cards and circulars, rolled to an open space on the table, and there settled down, heads or tails, with a noisy spinning dance, the clerk who first sees it is "it."

For himself he doesn't dare to go to bed for a short nap until he has got rid of his five cents' worth of responsibility to the government for the action of the fool person from whom the nickel was parted. He digs up his printed form for such occasions printed and provided, and at once fills out a long blank, describing the coin, telling the circumstances of its being found and whether it landed heads or tails on the table, naming the pouch from which it was emptied, the number of the train carrying it, the date and a few other little details any one of which in hot weather would have cost a mug of beer.

No, it is a lost nickel from the moment the clerk has to see it spinning there before his eyes, and according to the tender governmental conscience the clerk has to get ready for the inauguration of about \$18.43 worth of fuss over it.



Neglige Special

To get rid our Neglige Shirts we shall place
on sale this week

**\$1.25 and \$1.50 Values for
75cts**

**\$2.00 and \$2.25 Values for
\$1.50**

C. H. COOPER
The Big Store

HOODLUMS SHOT DOWN

Three Men Insult Woman in New
York and Are Roughly Used
by Her Escort.

TWO ARE FATALLY INJURED

Shooting Follows Vulgar Remark
Made by One of the Trio—
Man Who Did Shoot-
ing Escapes.

New York, July 23.—Resenting remarks made in the presence of a woman companion at One Hundred and Ninth street and Third avenue early today, an unidentified man shot and seriously wounded three men, all residents of the upper east side. Two of them—John Martin and Dennis Healy, probably will die.

According to the story of a witness

an insulting remark was made by some one when the trio passed the man and woman. Angry words were exchanged, the woman's escort drew a revolver and fired rapidly. Many persons rushed to the scene but fell back when they were threatened with death and the man made his escape. The woman was locked up pending an inquiry.

Marble Workers to Strike.

New York, July 23.—Differences between employers and the Marble Workers' Union have arisen here over a demand of the latter for the employment of union foremen. Although the work is being carried on under arbitration agreement, a general lockout is threatened. Five thousand men are affected.

New Bridge Opened to Use.

Vancouver, B. C., July 23.—The formal opening of the \$10,000,000 steel bridge across the Fraser river at New Westminster took place this afternoon. The new bridge is of international importance, as it will enable the American railways to get direct entrance into Vancouver and New Westminster.

EYE GLASSES THAT FIT



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KATHERINE WADE, Graduate Optician
At Owl Drug Store

Cigars You'll
Like
"La Veras"
Clear Havana
Best that
Can be
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For a Bit

All Dealers Sell Them

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